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2778. (*Transferred to 21st April*, 1994)

"Role of the Council of Forestry Research and Education

2779. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the role of the Council of Forestry Research and Education;

(b) what are the on-going projects of this council; and

(c) what are the details of present proposed projects of this Council pertaining to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The role of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) is to organise, direct and manage research and education in forestry sector.

(b) Major projects of the Council are:—

i. Management of natural forest and their rehabilitation;

ii. Increasing productivity of natural forests and plantation areas,

iii. Socio-economic studies for motivating farmers to grow more trees under agroforestry;

iv. Policy changes required to encourage forestry activities under rural development programme;

v. Improving forestry education in the country;

vi. Extension programmes for transferring reserach results from lab to land; and

vii. Developing a national library and information centre for forestry and allied sciences.

(c) Presently the Forestry research needs of Andhra Pradesh are being looked after by the Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore, an Institute of ICFRE. However, ICFRE proposes to create a separate Research Centre for Andhra Pradesh in Hyderabad. They have approached Government of Andhra Pradesh for allotment of land for this Research Centre near Hyderabad.

Polution in Yamuna

2780 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press news item which appeared in the Statesman dated 17th January 1994 under caption "Yamuna reduced to a huge sewer."

(b) if so, whether the Yamuna river has been converted into a big sewer due to increasing effluents pouring in the river;

(c) whether the Central Government authorities have failed to check the growth of effluents in the river; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the pollution of the rover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yamuna river is heavily polluted due to partly treated or untreated domestic waste-water and industrial effluents particularly along the city limits of Delhi Mathura and Agra. An Action Plan for pollution abatement of the Yamuna has been approved by the Government under this plan, pollution abatement works would be undertaken in six towns of Haryana and eight towns of Uttar Pradesh. In Delhi, the pollution abatement works would be undertaken under Delhi's own plan. Only two small treatment plants are part of the Yamuna Action Plan. Action has been initiated on the Yamuna Action Plan by the concerned State Governments.

Dumping of Garbage in Indian Ocean

2781. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some of the developed countries including Japan and the USA have been dumping huge quantities of their garbage in Indian Ocean within our territory;

(b) if so, whether any studies have been attempted to find the quantities so dumped and the effect thereof on our environment;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what is being done to tackle the problem; and

(d) if not what are the reasons therefor?